

Celebration of Life  
and  
Home Going Service



Bishop Dr. Jeff Banks

June 7, 1927 - January 31, 1997

Founder/Pastor

Revival Temple Center of Deliverance

Saturday, February 8, 1997  
Wells Cathedral, C.O.G.I.C.  
672 Martin Luther King Boulevard  
Newark, New Jersey

Jeremiah 32:27: "Behold, I am LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?"

Galatians 6:9: "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."



## OBITUARY

### BISHOP DR. JEFF BANKS

*B*ishop Jeff Banks, the son of the late Anna and James Banks was born in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, June 7, 1927. He received his formal education in the Pittsburgh school system. At age 9, Bishop began playing the piano and those who listened recognized that at an early age the hand of God was upon him. Bishop served in the United States Armed Forces with an honorable discharge. Bishop pursued his gospel music career accompanying great artists as the late Mahalia Jackson, Mary Johnson Davis singers and Alex Bradford. The "Banks Brothers," which included Bishop along with his brother Reverend Charles Banks, Pastor of the Greater Harvest Baptist Church, traveled extensively singing before mass audiences. They recorded on labels, RCA, Atlantic and Savoy. They were the first black gospel recording artists to appear at the Newport Jazz Festival in Rhode Island, Carnegie Hall and Madison Square Garden. The epitome of the Banks Brothers' gospel career was reached when they recorded "Lord I've Tried," which became gold and platinum records.

*T*hirty-two years ago Bishop answered the call to pastordship and Revival Temple was birthed. In 1977 he was consecrated as Bishop of the Revival Temple Church International. Within his church he organized the Revival Temple choir, recording on Savoy label with such hits as "Prayer Will fix It Every Time", and the latest release "I Am What God Says I Am." Because of the "Bishop's" humanitarian spirit, he is the recipient of numerous accolades and awards from the Newark City Council, the Essex County Board of Freeholders, State of New Jersey Assembly, The Boy Scouts of America and the Leukemia Society just to name a few. Bishop Jeff Banks' Day was declared in the City of Newark, October, 1984. In 1996, Bishop was presented an honorary doctorate degree from the Christian Bible Institute in Bloomfield, New Jersey.

*B*ishop Dr. Jeff Banks is survived by his devoted and loving wife Dr. Ema Ali, formerly of Miami, Florida; his loving brothers Reverend Charles Banks of Newark, John Henry of Pittsburgh and the late Joseph Banks; one loving sister, Lucy Banks of Pittsburgh; four nieces: Lisa Banks of Newark, Jacqueline Banks of Pittsburgh, Carlene Rolle-Porter of West Palm Beach, Florida and Elmetta Rolle of Bahamas Island; five Nephews: Charles K. Jr. of Atlanta, Steven of Newark, Charles and John of Pittsburgh, and Charles Banks of California; great aunt, Naomi Jones-Grant of Miami, great nephew Shakir Holden; many god-sons, god-daughters and loving friends.

## *Order of Service*

-Presiding-

Elder Barbara Harris, Assistant Pastor of Revival Temple

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| ORGAN PRELUDE.....   | Linell Andrews<br>Dennis Bines  |
| PROCESSIONAL.....  |   |
| HYMN.....  | What A Friend We Have<br>In Jesus   |
| OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 22:11-11   | Elder Joseph Ingram, Pastor<br>Grace Tabernacle, C.O.G.I.C.<br>& Mason Memorial, C.O.G.I.C. |
| NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:3-10...   | Dr. Ernest Leonard, Pastor<br>Provision of Promise  |
| PRAYER OF COMFORT.....   | Dr. Robert Jiggetts, Pastor<br>Liberty Temple Universal<br>Church of Christ                 |
| SELECTION: It's All Right Now.....   | Revival Temple Combined<br>Choirs   |
| TRIBUTES: (2 minutes only please)  |   |
| Bishop Billy Robinson, Garden of Prayer, C.O.G.I.C.<br>Bishop Nathaniel Simmons, Sounds of Praise<br>Rev. Milton Biggum, Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church<br>Honorable Mayor of Newark, Sharpe James |   |
| SOLO: I Won't Complain.....  | Donald Malloy   |

## *Order of Service*

### TRIBUTE:

The Honorable Chandler D. Owens, Presiding Bishop  
Churches of God In Christ Worldwide

SELECTION: All Things In Jesus I Find..... Revival Temple Combined  
Choirs

### TRIBUTES:

Dr. Lois Richardson, Greater Harvest Baptist Church  
Rev. Hersey Taylor, Wells Cathedral, C.O.G.I.C.  
Dr. Willie Wilson, Union Temple Baptist Church

SELECTION: Prayer Will fix It..... Revival Temple Combined  
Choirs

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, RESOLUTIONS AND OBITUARY.....

Missionary Chrylyn Bell  
Missionary Ruth James

### *Reflections*

Rev. Lawrence Roberts  
Atlanta, Georgia

Mother Louise Harris  
Revival Temple

Deaconess Estella Johnson  
Revival Temple

SELECTION: I Am What God Says I Am..... Revival Temple Combined  
Choirs

EULOGY..... Bishop Dr. Jonathan Greer, Pastor  
Cathedral of Faith, C.O.G.I.C.  
Atlanta, Georgia

RECESSIONAL: You Don't Know Like I Know..... Revival Temple Combined  
Choirs

### ORGAN PRELUDE



*Entombment*  
FAIRMOUNT MAUSOLEUM  
Newark, New Jersey



*My Husband*

*It Is Well*

*As night turned to day  
And you must leave to go away,  
Oh how it hurts but, I know  
It is well.*

*To reflect on a laugh,  
a kiss or a peaceful glance,  
In my heart I say  
It is well.*

*Holding your hand or a gentle embrace  
in my spirit I say  
It is well.*

*Giving thanks to God for our union on earth,  
and the love that we shared it will never depart  
in my mind I say  
It is well.*

*Blessing the Lord for great things he has done,  
in my soul I say  
It is well.*

*Rest my dear Bishop, your spirit will always live  
Praise the Lord!  
For I know it is well!*

*Love Erna*

## *Thank You*

*Thank you dear God for those special Dads that seem to pass our way.  
The ones so unique, so loving and kind that make life worth living each day.*

*Just a gentle word, a laugh or a smile, a hand shake, a hug or a kiss,  
Thank you dear God for your spiritual guidance a true, real, and meaningful gift.*

*O thank you dear God for everlasting love, and your mercy indeed I am glad.  
To have spent just a small but significant part of myself with a wonderful Dad.*

*Love Vernest*

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### Honorary Pallbearers

### CLERGY OF REVIVAL TEMPLE

#### Pallbearers

Trustee David Truesdale  
Trustee Curtis Robinson  
Trustee James Faison  
Trustee Keith Lowery

Deacon Edward Battle  
Deacon Claude Chapman

Minister James Johnson  
Minister Edward Bohannon

Deacon Robert Talley

#### Flower Attendants

Evangelists  
Missionaries  
Deaconesses

*Following the entombment, family and friends are invited to the dining hall  
Wells Cathedral, C.O.G.I.C., 672 Martin Luther King Blvd., Newark, New Jersey.*

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*We the family of Bishop Dr. Jeff Banks, gratefully acknowledge your kindness and  
sincere sympathy. Although our hearts are sadden we realize that God has looked  
beyond our earthly desire and fulfilled His heavenly plan.*

*May God Forever Bless You  
Submitted with Love*

#### THE FAMILY

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We, the Revival Temple family, first give thanks to God, who is too wise to make a  
mistake, thank you for your love and kindness. As we work towards keeping the vision  
of Bishop Banks alive, keep us in your prayers. For we love him but God loves him best.

#### WE REMAIN IN HIS SERVICE

#### THE REVIVAL TEMPLE CHURCH FAMILY

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Thank you to Pastor Hersey Taylor and the membership of  
Wells Cathedral for your kindness during our great loss.

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Professional Services Provided by  
Whigham Funeral Home  
580 Dr. Martin Luther King Blv.  
Newark, New Jersey